

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS

5

1. A medium judgment method which determines authorization of a rewritable storage medium having a read-only area and a rewritable area for use in an optical disk drive, the method comprising steps of:

10

acquiring a specific information of the medium from an information reproduction area of the read-only area of the medium; determining whether contents of the medium are authorized based on the acquired specific information;

15

permitting running of a starting process of the optical disk drive with the medium when the authorization of the medium is determined as being correct; and

inhibiting running of the starting process of the optical disk drive with the medium when the authorization of the medium is determined as being incorrect.

20

2. The medium judgment method of claim 1 wherein, when the acquisition of the specific information from the medium is

25

impossible, the authorization of the medium is determined based on error information obtained in the acquiring step.

5

3. A medium judgment method which determines authorization of a rewritable storage medium having a read-only area and a rewritable area for use in an optical disk drive, the method comprising steps of:

acquiring a first specific information of the medium from a wobbling groove of the medium;

acquiring a second specific information of the medium from an information reproduction area of the read-only area of the medium, the second specific information being pre-recorded in the information reproduction area when the first specific information is copied;

determining whether contents of the medium are authorized based on both the acquired first specific information and the acquired second specific information;

permitting running of a starting process of the optical disk drive with the medium when the authorization of the medium is determined as being correct; and

inhibiting running of the starting process of the optical disk drive with the medium when the authorization of the medium is

determined as being incorrect.

5

4. The medium judgment method of claim 3 wherein, when the acquisition of the first specific information from the medium is impossible and the acquisition of the second specific information from the medium is possible, the authorization of the medium is determined based on both error information obtained in the first acquiring step and the acquired second specific information.

15

5. The medium judgment method of claim 3 wherein, when the acquisition of the first specific information from the medium is impossible and the acquisition of the second specific information from the medium is impossible, the authorization of the medium is determined based on both error information obtained in the first acquiring step and error information obtained in the second acquiring step.

25

6. A computer-readable storage medium storing a program causing a computer to execute a medium judgment method which determines authorization of a rewritable storage medium having a read-only area and a rewritable area for use in an optical disk drive,  
5 the method comprising steps of:

acquiring a specific information of the medium from an information reproduction area of the read-only area of the medium;

determining whether contents of the medium are authorized based on the acquired specific information;

10 permitting running of a starting process of the optical disk drive with the medium when the authorization of the medium is determined as being correct; and

inhibiting running of the starting process of the optical disk drive with the medium when the authorization of the medium is  
15 determined as being incorrect.

20 7. The computer-readable storage medium of claim 6 wherein, when the acquisition of the specific information from the medium is impossible, the authorization of the medium is determined based on error information obtained in the acquiring step.

8. A computer-readable storage medium storing a program causing a computer to execute a medium judgment method which determines authorization of a rewritable storage medium having a read-only area and a rewritable area for use in an optical disk drive,  
5 the method comprising steps of:

acquiring a first specific information of the medium from a wobbling groove of the medium;

acquiring a second specific information of the medium from an information reproduction area of the read-only area of the medium,  
10 the second specific information being pre-recorded in the information reproduction area when the first specific information is copied;

determining whether contents of the medium are authorized based on both the acquired first specific information and the  
15 acquired second specific information;

permitting running of a starting process of the optical disk drive with the medium when the authorization of the medium is determined as being correct; and

inhibiting running of the starting process of the optical disk  
20 drive with the medium when the authorization of the medium is determined as being incorrect.

9. The computer-readable storage medium of claim 8 wherein,  
when the acquisition of the first specific information from the  
medium is impossible and the acquisition of the second specific  
information from the medium is possible, the authorization of the  
5 medium is determined based on both error information obtained in  
the first acquiring step and the acquired second specific information.

10

10. The computer-readable storage medium of claim 8 wherein,  
when the acquisition of the first specific information from the  
medium is impossible and the acquisition of the second specific  
information from the medium is impossible, the authorization of the  
15 medium is determined based on both error information obtained in  
the first acquiring step and error information obtained in the second  
acquiring step.

20

11. A medium judgment program causing a computer to  
execute a medium judgment method which determines authorization  
of a rewritable storage medium having a read-only area and a  
25 rewritable area for use in an optical disk drive, the method

comprising steps of:

acquiring a specific information of the medium from an  
information reproduction area of the read-only area of the medium;

determining whether contents of the medium are authorized  
5 based on the acquired specific information;

permitting running of a starting process of the optical disk  
drive with the medium when the authorization of the medium is  
determined as being correct; and

inhibiting running of the starting process of the optical disk  
10 drive with the medium when the authorization of the medium is  
determined as being incorrect.

15

12. The medium judgment program of claim 11 wherein, when  
the acquisition of the specific information from the medium is  
impossible, the authorization of the medium is determined based on  
error information obtained in the acquiring step.

20

13. A medium judgment program causing a computer to  
25 execute a medium judgment method which determines authorization

of a rewritable storage medium having a read-only area and a rewritable area for use in an optical disk drive, the method comprising steps of:

5 acquiring a first specific information of the medium from a wobbling groove of the medium;

acquiring a second specific information of the medium from an information reproduction area of the read-only area of the medium, the second specific information being pre-recorded in the information reproduction area when the first specific information is  
10 copied;

determining whether contents of the medium are authorized based on both the acquired first specific information and the acquired second specific information;

15 permitting running of a starting process of the optical disk drive with the medium when the authorization of the medium is determined as being correct; and

inhibiting running of the starting process of the optical disk drive with the medium when the authorization of the medium is determined as being incorrect.

20

14. The medium judgment program of claim 13 wherein, when  
25 the acquisition of the first specific information from the medium is



impossible and the acquisition of the second specific information from the medium is possible, the authorization of the medium is determined based on both error information obtained in the first acquiring step and the acquired second specific information.

5

15. The medium judgment program of claim 13 wherein, when  
10 the acquisition of the first specific information from the medium is impossible and the acquisition of the second specific information from the medium is impossible, the authorization of the medium is determined based on both error information obtained in the first acquiring step and error information obtained in the second  
15 acquiring step.

20 16. An optical disk drive which determines authorization of a rewritable optical disk having a read-only area and a rewritable area, comprising:

a system control unit controlling the entire optical disk drive;  
an optical head irradiating a light beam to the disk and  
25 performing reading/writing of information with the disk by the

control of the system control unit;

a motor rotating the disk;

a position control unit performing a position control of the optical head and a rotation control of the motor by the control of the

5 system control unit; and

a signal processing unit performing signal processing of data read from the disk by the control of the system control unit,

the system control unit comprising:

an acquiring unit acquiring a specific information of the disk  
10 from an information reproduction area of the read-only area of the disk;

a determining unit determining whether contents of the disk are authorized based on the acquired specific information;

a permitting unit permitting running of a starting process of  
15 the optical disk drive with the disk when the authorization of the disk is determined as being correct; and

an inhibiting unit inhibiting running of the starting process of the optical disk drive with the disk when the authorization of the disk is determined as being incorrect.

20

17. The optical disk drive of claim 16 wherein, when the  
25 acquisition of the specific information from the disk is impossible,

the authorization of the medium is determined based on error information obtained by the acquiring unit.

5

18. An optical disk drive which determines authorization of a rewritable optical disk having a read-only area and a rewritable area, comprising:

10       a system control unit controlling the entire optical disk drive;  
          an optical head irradiating a light beam to the disk and performing reading/writing of information with the disk by the control of the system control unit;

          a motor rotating the disk;

15       a position control unit performing a position control of the optical head and a rotation control of the motor by the control of the system control unit; and

          a signal processing unit performing signal processing of data read from the disk by the control of the system control unit,

20       the system control unit comprising:

          a first acquiring unit acquiring a first specific information of the disk from a wobbling groove of the disk;

          a second acquiring unit acquiring a second specific information of the disk from an information reproduction area of the read-only area of the disk, the second specific information being

25

pre-recorded in the information reproduction area when the first specific information is copied;

5 a determining unit determining whether contents of the disk are authorized based on both the acquired first specific information and the acquired second specific information;

a permitting unit permitting running of a starting process of the optical disk drive with the disk when the authorization of the disk is determined as being correct; and

10 an inhibiting unit inhibiting running of the starting process of the optical disk drive with the disk when the authorization of the disk is determined as being incorrect.

15

19. The optical disk drive of claim 18 wherein, when the acquisition of the first specific information from the disk is impossible and the acquisition of the second specific information from the disk is possible, the authorization of the disk is determined  
20 based on both error information obtained by the first acquiring unit and the acquired second specific information.

25

20. The optical disk drive of claim 18 wherein, when the acquisition of the first specific information from the disk is impossible and the acquisition of the second specific information from the disk is impossible, the authorization of the disk is determined based on both error information obtained by the first acquiring unit and error information obtained by the second acquiring unit.

10

15

20

25